

## ***Shavu'ot and Healing, Volume 6, Issue 1, Spring 2005/5765***

To request a single copy of the latest edition of *The Outstretched Arm on Shavu'ot and Healing*, the newsletter of *The National Center for Jewish Healing (NCJH)*, please email your complete address to the National Center for Jewish Healing (NCJH) at [info@ncjh.org](mailto:info@ncjh.org). Additional copies can be purchased for \$1.50 a piece.

In this edition:

- *An overview of Shavu'ot*
- *Suggestions for Tikku Leyl Shavu'ot*
- *Meditations on giving/receiving Torah*
- *Reflections on "How Torah Heals"*
- *Reflections on The Book of Ruth*
- *Updates from the NCJH*

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## **Some Commentaries on Text dealing with Illness and Healing for *Tikkun Leyl Shavu'ot***

Prepared by Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub, LMSW

Here are some of the basic **English commentaries on the Torah** that are often found in the pews at synagogues:

Conservative:

***Etz Hayim Torah and Commentary*** (New York: The Rabbinical Assembly and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 2001)

Orthodox:

***The Chumash: The Stone Edition***, edited by Rabbi Nosson Scherman and Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz (New York: Artscroll Series/Mesorah Publications, 1993ff)

Reform:

***The Torah: A Modern Commentary***, edited by Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut (New York: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, now Union for Reform Judaism, 1981)

For some more in-depth exploration of the Numbers 12 narrative about Miriam's skin disease, consider Nehama Leibowitz, ***Studies in Bemidbar/Numbers***, (Jerusalem: World Zionist Organization, Department for Torah Education and Culture in the Diaspora, 5748/1980; vol. 4 of 5) – see the section on the Torah portion of *Beha'lotkha*, number 6, "Blackening the Beautiful," pages 129-134..

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For the story of King Hezekiah's illness and healing, consider starting with the article in the **Enclopaedia Judaica**, volume 8, columns 450-455.

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For the lines from Psalms, the Jewish Publication Society published a revision of its English translation in 1997, titled ***The Book of Psalms***.

Here is a bibliography of relatively recent English commentaries on the Psalms:

**Some Jewish Books about the PSALMS, in English  
A Brief and Not-Yet-Annotated Bibliography**

*Developed by Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub, CSW © 2001-4*

*National Center for Jewish Healing*

*Please share suggestions for this bibliography with [sweintraub@jbfcs.org](mailto:sweintraub@jbfcs.org)*

***For thou art with me: The Healing Power of Psalms***, Rabbi Samuel Chiel and Henry Dreher (Daybreak/Rodale Books, 2000)

***Our Haven and Our Strength: The Book of Psalms***, Martin Samuel Cohen (New York: Aviv Press, 2004)

***Tehillim Treasury***: Inspirational Messages and Uplifting Interpretations of the Psalms of David, Rabbi Avrohom Chaim Feuer (Brooklyn: Artscroll Mesorah paperback, 1993ff)

***The Bible: Psalms, with the Jerusalem Commentary***, by Amos Hakham (Jerusalem: Mosad Harav Kook, 2003; 3 volumes)

***The Psalms***, Translation and Commentary by Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (New York: Feldheim Publishers, 5737/1978)

***Sing Unto God A New Song***: A Contemporary Reading of the Psalms, Herbert J. Levine (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995)

***Bringing the Psalms to Life***: How to Understand and Use the Book of Psalms, Rabbi Daniel F. Polish, PhD (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2000)

***Keeping Faith with the Psalms***: Deepen Your Relationship with God Using the Book of Psalms, Rabbi Daniel F. Polish, PhD (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2003)

***Psalms***: A New English Translation Translation of Text, Rashi and Commentary by Rabbi A. J. Rosenberg (New York: The Judaica Press, 1991, 3 volumes)

***On the Book of Psalms***: Exploring the Prayers of Ancient Israel, Nahum M. Sarna (New York: Schocken Books paperback, 1993)

***Healing of Soul, Healing of Body***: Spiritual Leaders Unfold the Strength and Solace of Psalms, Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub, CSW (Jewish Lights Publishing, 1994)